



CONTACT: Jockeys' Guild (859) 523-JOCK (523-5625)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON RACE DAY MEDICATION AND SAFETY CONCERNS FROM THE JOCKEYS' GUILD

NICHOLASVILLE, Ky. (April 30, 2012) – The board of directors of the Jockeys' Guild has voted to adopt the following policy statement concerning race day medications and safety concerns:

1. The safety of human and equine athletes must be paramount at all times in racing.
2. We participate on, and support the mission of, the Racing Medication Testing Consortium board ("RMTC"), which is striving to develop and promote uniform rules, policies and testing standards at the national level; coordinate research and educational programs that seek to ensure the integrity of racing and the health and welfare of racehorses and participants; and protect the interests of the racing public.
3. The rules regarding race day medication should be uniform throughout the United States through the creation of an *Interstate Compact on Horse Racing* which will enable states to act cooperatively with more uniform, effective and efficient practices, programs, rules and regulations related to racing.
4. We support the RMTC's recommendation to reduce the threshold of in blood for phenylbutazone ("Bute") from 5 micrograms/milliliter (ug/ml) to 2 micrograms/milliliter (ug/ml).
5. We support mandatory *PRE-RACE Veterinary exams* as the only real guarantee against unsafe horses on the race track. We believe there should a stronger emphasis on the responsibility of the veterinarian in the afternoon to scratch horses which are not warming up soundly during the post-parade.

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6. We agree that the improper use of clenbuterol and illegally compounded non-FDA approved substances is a serious concern. We support the RMTC's current efforts to determine the withdrawal times before a horse so treated can be allowed to race.
7. We agree that corticosteroids have to be thoroughly studied and limited in use as the science dictates.
8. We support rigorous limits on extracorporeal shock wave therapy. Every owner, trainer, or veterinarian who owns or buys a shock wave therapy apparatus must register it with the Commission, Board of Stewards and race track where is being used before it is used and give notice every time it is used. Shock Wave therapy needs to be conducted at a designated area, overseen by a regulatory veterinarian or racing official, the details of any such treatment for any horse shall be provided to all jockeys and the horse shall not race within 10 days of treatment as currently stated in the ARCI Model Rules.
9. We agree that no adjunct race day medications are permissible.
10. We support continuing scientific studies of the safety of utilizing Furosemide ("Lasix") as a race day medication and will work with the industry to take any actions necessary to ensure safety. If Lasix is used it shall be administered by a regulatory veterinarian.

About the Guild

Jockeys' Guild, Inc., the organization representing professional jockeys in Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing in the United States, was founded in May 1940 and has approximately 950 members, including active, retired and disabled jockeys. The purpose is to protect jockeys, strive to achieve a safer racing environment, to obtain improved insurance and other benefits for members and to monitor developments in local, state and federal laws affecting the racing industry, and in particular, the jockeys. More information at www.jockeysguild.com and www.facebook.com/jockeysguild.

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